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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Dec. 7, 1864.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

[By the CHAIR.]

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

RICHMOND, Dec. 6, 1864.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 23d ultimo, I herewith transmit and invite your attention to a communication from the Secretary of War, relative to the "appointments under an act approved June 14, 1864, providing for the establishment and payment of claims for a certain description of property taken or informally impressed for the use of the army.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

COMMUNICATION OF SECRETARY OF WAR.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Dec. 3, 1864.

To the President of the Confederate States:

SIR: I have received the following resolution of the House of Representatives, referred by your Excellency to this Department:

"*Resolved*, That the President be requested to inform this House how many persons have accepted appointments under an act approved June 14, 1864, providing for the establishment and payment of claims for a certain description of property taken or informally impressed for the use of the army, the names of such persons, and for what districts of country they were appointed."

In response, I have the honor to submit a report from the Adjutant General, containing the information desired by the House.

I may add that diligent effort has been made by the Department to secure the prompt execution of this law, but, from the inadequacy of the compensation allowed, great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining suitable agents, and many of those to whom appointments were tendered have declined, assigning as the reason the insufficiency of the pay provided to meet the expenses that would be necessarily incurred in the discharge of the duties of the office. In the report

lately submitted, I made special reference to this subject, and recommended an increase of the compensation of the agents.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., December 2, 1864.

Hon. Secretary of War :

In answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 23d of November, 1864, as follows, to-wit:

"*Resolved*, That the President be requested to inform this House how many persons have accepted appointments under an act approved June 14, 1864, providing for the establishment and payment of claims for a certain discription of property taken or informally impressed for the use of the army, the names of such persons and for what districts of country were they appointed ;"

And which was referred by you to me for a report. I have the honor to forward the enclosed list as furnishing the information desired.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

COMMISSIONERS to take testimony in regard to claims for property informally impressed under Act approved 14th June, 1864, (General Orders, No. 54.)

VIRGINIA.

Second District—Hon. John R. Chambliss.
Fourth District—E. G. Leigh.
Fifth District—Asa Dickinson.
Seventh District—Paulus Powell.
Ninth District—W. H. Dulaney.
Tenth District—John T. Lovell.
Twelfth District—George W. Duval.
Thirteenth District—Jacob V. Fulkerson.

MISSISSIPPI.

First District—H. A. Barr.
Second District—C. Fontaine.
Fourth District—Ben. King.
Fifth District—James M. Dyer.
Sixth District—Sylvanus Evans.
Seventh District—E. L. Bowen.

TEXAS.

Fourth District—Thomas J. Ward.
Fifth District—James M. Crockett.

GEORGIA.

First District—William T. Thompson.
Third District—Ambrose Spencer.
Fifth District—W. J. Walker.
Seventh District—Robert J. Morgan.
Eighth District—J. W. H. Underwood.

ALABAMA.

Second District—A. S. Nicholson.
Fifth District—T. G. Lowry, Captain company F, third Missouri regiment, assigned.
Seventh District—Smith Graham.
Eighth District—George W. Coleman.
Ninth District—T. W. Price.

South Carolina.

Fifth District—W. E. Holcombe.
Sixth District—William R. Robertson.

North Carolina.

Fourth District—Duncan G. McRae.
Eighth District—J. E. Kerr.
Ninth District—S. C. W. Tate.
Tenth District—W. B. Gooding.

Tennessee.

First District—Charles R. Vance.

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